DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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September is National Preparedness Month Be Prepared County of San Bernardino

National Preparedness Month was founded after September 11, 2001, to highlight to the nation the importance of emergency preparedness. The County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Health, Preparedness and Response Program is encouraging residents to take action by preparing for public health emergencies by, knowing about community Point of Dispensing (POD) sites. A Point of Dispensing (POD) site is a location where the community would go to receive medication and or vaccinations during a public health emergency, such as pandemic influenza or bioterrorism.

"Planning today leads to a better response for the community tomorrow" said Dr. Maxwell Ohikhuare, Health Officer for San Bernardino County, Department of Public Health.

Preparation can begin with three simple steps: Know Your Part, Learn Where to Go, and Learn Where to Find Information.

- **Know Your Part:** Be informed about emergencies that could happen in your community and prepare for them by knowing about your community Point of Dispensing (POD) site.
- Learn Where To Go: Know where your nearest community POD site will be to receive medications or vaccinations.
- Learn Where To Find Information: Identify sources of information in your community that will be helpful before, during and after an emergency. Visit the Preparedness and Response Program's website to learn more about public health emergencies at www.sbcounty.gov/prp.

For more information, contact the County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Health, Preparedness and Response Program at 909-252-4406.

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